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EXAMINER
NGUYEN, LE V

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2174	6

DATE MAILED: 03/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/764,302

Applicant(s)

TSUCHIMURA ET AL.

Examiner

Le Nguyen

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-54 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-54 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)             | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.                                    |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Drawings***

1. The drawings are objected to because "END OFCHANNEL SWITCHING" needs to be changed to "END OF CHANNEL SWITCHING". A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

### ***Specification***

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

a) the phrase "browse other page in a time till the former page is updated" of lines 9-10 of page 3 appears to contain a grammatical error; and,

b) the phrase "According to another aspect of the present invention, an information display architecture is that a turn object" of lines 3-4 of page 7 appears to contain a grammatical error

Appropriate correction is required.

3. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

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A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-9, 12, 14-16, 19-27, 30, 32-34, 37-45, 48 and 50-52 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Wynn et al. ("Wynn", US 6,667,751 B1).

As per claim 1, Wynn teaches an information display system comprising:

a display unit including a plurality of display areas into which a predetermined area is divided (figs. 3-6 and 10-11; *plurality of divided predetermined display areas such as element 1101 of figs. 10-11 and web browser window*);

an operation unit indicating an item of information to be displayed in each of the display areas (fig. 8; Abstract; *user selects information to be displayed in each of the display areas via an operation unit/mouse*);

an acquiring unit acquiring the specified item of information; and a control unit having the acquired information displayed in the corresponding display area (Abstract; fig. 8; *user selection is acquired and the rendered images are displayed in a window*).

As per claim 2, Wynn teaches an information display system wherein the acquiring unit includes a communication unit and acquires the information by accessing a network (fig. 8; *information is acquired via the Internet*).

As per claim 3, Wynn teaches an information display system comprising a history storing module storing display histories of items of information displayed wherein the items of information stored as the display histories are displayed in a predetermined order in the

respective display areas (fig. 11; *in the history browser log 1101, the items of information stored in a predetermined order in the respective display area*).

As per claim 4, Wynn teaches an information display system wherein when a first item of information displayed in a first display area is related to a second item of information, and when giving an indication of displaying the second item of information, the second item of information is displayed in a second display area while keeping the display of the first item of information in the first display area (figs. 10-12; col. 9, line 44 through col. 10, line 13).

As per claim 5, Wynn teaches an information display system wherein the first item of information is related to the second item of information by use of a specified keyword, and when the keyword is dragged and dropped to the second display area, the second item of information is displayed (col. 9, lines 31-34).

As per claim 6, Wynn teaches an information display system wherein the display unit displays identifying information for identifying the display area, the control unit when the identifying information corresponding to the display area is specified through the operation unit, enlarges the display area corresponding to the identifying information and displays only the single display area (col. 8, line 66 through col. 9, line 43; *the control unit/knob/slider detects user's selection via the operation unit/mouse and enlarges the display area corresponding to the identifying information/thumbnail and displays only the web page content corresponding to the thumbnail content*).

As per claim 7, Wynn teaches an information display system wherein the identifying information is displayed within the display area identified by the identifying information when the operation unit detects an indicating operation with respect to the identifying information, the

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display area corresponding to the identifying information is enlarged (figs. 10-11; col. 8, line 66 through col. 9, line 43).

As per claim 8, Wynn teaches an information display system wherein when the operation unit detects an indication operation with respect to the identifying information, the enlarged single display area is changed into a plurality of display areas (figs. 3 and 10-11; *upon another selection such as thumbnail 1101, the display area is changed into a plurality of display areas*).

As per claim 9, Wynn teaches an information display system comprising:

a display unit displaying a turn object which includes an indicator, indicating any one piece of identifying information among pieces of identifying information arranged along substantially a circumferential shape, turning about the center of the circumferential shape (fig. 10, *and respective portions of the specification*; col. 6, lines 52-54);

a detection unit detecting an operation of the operation unit with respect to the turn object; and a control unit turning the indicator in accordance with the detected operation (figs. 10-11; col. 8, line 66 through col. 9, line 43; *operation unit/mouse selection is detected with respect to the turn object/slider/knob and the indicator is displayed to reflect this movement/or turn*).

As per claim 12, Wynn teaches an information display system comprising

a communication unit obtaining information by accessing a network (fig. 8; *information is acquired via the Internet over a network*);

a display unit displaying the information obtained (figs. 8 and 11);

a control unit displaying, in a display area, the information obtained from the network via the communication unit (Abstract; fig. 8; *user selection is acquired and the rendered images are displayed in a window*); and

a control unit displaying, in a display area, the information obtained from the network via the communication unit, wherein the display unit includes a display area for displaying the information and a turn object having an indicator indicating any one piece of identifying information among pieces of identifying information arranged along substantially a circumferential shape, turning about the center of the circumferential shape (fig. 10, *and respective portions of the specification*; col. 6, lines 52-54), and the control unit detects an operation of the operation unit with respect to the turn object and displays the information corresponding to the identifying information indicated in a position to which the indicator is turned (figs. 10-11; col. 8, line 66 through col. 9, line 43; *operation unit/mouse selection is detected with respect to the turn object/slider/knob and the indicator is displayed to reflect this movement/or turn*).

As per claim 14, Wynn teaches an information display system comprising:

a display unit displaying an object including an indicator for indicating any one piece of identifying information among plural pieces of identifying information (fig. 10; *displayed is an indicator/slider widget/knob for identifying information such as url 1102 or thumbnail 1101 among plural pieces of information indicated by element 154*);

a detection unit detecting a content of an indication operation of an operation unit with respect to the object (figs. 10-11; col. 8, line 66 through col. 9, line 43; *operation unit/mouse selection is detected with respect to the turn object/slider/knob*); and

a control unit changing the indication of identifying information indicated by the indicator in accordance with the detected content of the indicating operation (figs. 10-11; col. 8, line 66 through col. 9, line 43; *operation unit/mouse selection is detected with respect to the turn object/slider/knob and the indicator is displayed to reflect this movement/or turn*).

As per claim 15, Wynn teaches an information display system comprising:

a display unit displaying an object displayed on a screen and serving as an operation target (figs. 10-11; col. 8, line 66 through col. 9, line 43; *e.g. slider/knob*); and

a control unit detecting an indicating operation with an operation unit with respect to the object, and changing a display mode of displaying the object on the display unit in accordance with the indicating operation thereof, wherein the object is moved and displayed in a second display position by the indicating operation with respect to the object displayed in a first display position (figs. 10-11; col. 8, line 66 through col. 9, line 43).

As per claim 16, Wynn teaches an information display system wherein the operation unit is a mouse, and the indication is a click on the object (figs. 8 and 10-11; col. 8, line 66 through col. 9, line 43).

Claims 19 and 37 individually are similar in scope to claim 1 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 20 and 38 individually are similar in scope to claim 2 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 21 and 39 individually are similar in scope to claim 3 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.



Claims 22 and 40 individually are similar in scope to claim 4 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 23 and 41 individually are similar in scope to claim 5 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 24 and 42 individually are similar in scope to claim 6 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 27 and 45 are individually similar in scope to claim 9 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 30 and 48 individually are similar in scope to claim 12 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 32 and 50 individually are similar in scope to claim 14 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 33 and 51 individually are similar in scope to claim 15 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 34 and 52 individually are similar in scope to claim 16 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

As per claim 25, Wynn teaches a storage medium readable by a machine tangible embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine, the method steps comprising displaying the identifying information within the display area identified by the identifying information, and, when detecting an indicating operation with respect to the identifying information, enlarging the single display area corresponding to the identifying information (figs. 10-11; col. 8, line 66 through col. 9, line 43).

As per claim 26, Wynn teaches a storage medium readable by a machine tangible embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine, when detecting an indication operation with respect to the identifying information, the enlarged single display area is changed into a plurality of display areas (figs. 3 and 10-11; *upon another selection such as thumbnail 1101, the display area is changed into a plurality of display areas*).

As per claim 43, Wynn teaches an information display method comprising displaying the identifying information is displayed within the display area identified by the identifying information, and, when detecting an indicating operation with respect to the identifying information, enlarging the single display area corresponding to the identifying information (figs. 10-11; col. 8, line 66 through col. 9, line 43).

As per claim 44, Wynn teaches an information display method wherein when detecting an indication operation with respect to the identifying information, the enlarged single display area is changed into a plurality of display areas (figs. 3 and 10-11; *upon another selection such as thumbnail 1101, the display area is changed into a plurality of display areas*).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 10, 11, 28, 29, 46 and 47 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wynn et al. ("Wynn", US 6,667,751 B1) in view of Elsbree (WO 99/46651).

As per claim 10, Wynn teaches all the features of claim 9 and also an information display system wherein the operation unit is a pointing device having at least two pieces of buttons (fig. 8; *depicted is a mouse with at least two buttons*); and the indicator turning clockwise and counterclockwise by depressing a button (fig. 10, element 151 and 152 combined with col. 6, lines 53-54). Wynn does not explicitly disclose the indicator turning counterclockwise by depressing a first button and turns clockwise by depressing a second button. Elsbree teaches an indicator turning counterclockwise by depressing a first button and turns clockwise by depressing a second button (page 11, lines 10-15). Therefore, it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Elsbree's teaching of an indicator turning counterclockwise by depressing a first button and turns clockwise by depressing a second button to Wynn's teaching of an indicator turning clockwise and counterclockwise by depressing a button in order to provide users with additional input devices to control on-screen objects.

As per claim 11, the modified Wynn teaches an information display system wherein the two buttons are right and left buttons, the first button is the left button and the second button is the right button (Wynn: fig. 8; *mouse comprising of a left button and a right button*).

Claims 28 and 46 are individually similar in scope to claim 10 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 29 and 47 individually are similar in scope to claim 11 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

8. Claims 13, 31 and 49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wynn et al. ("Wynn", US 6,667,751 B1) in view of Mills et al. ("Mills", US 5,237,648).

As per claim 13, Wynn teaches all the features of claim 12 and also an information display system wherein the turn object has pieces of information arranged along the substantially circumferential shape and each including a plurality of display areas into which a predetermined area is divided with plural items of information are displayed in the divided display areas (figs. 3-6 and 10-11; *plurality of divided predetermined display areas such as element 1101 of figs. 10-11 and web browser window*) and pieces of information representing plural pieces of identifying information and when the indicator is selected to the position of indicating the information representing the plural pieces of identifying information, plural items of information are displayed (figs. 5 and 10-11; *the indicator/slider widget/knob is selected to the graduation mark with associated thumbnail, information is displayed wherein the information may be displayed in a divided display such as depicted in fig. 5*). Wynn does not explicitly disclose the pieces of information representing the number of divisions by which the display area of the display unit is divided and when the indicator is turned to the position of indicating the information representing the number of divisions, the display area is divided by this number of divisions, and plural items of information are displayed in the divided display areas. Mills teaches pieces of information representing the number of divisions by which the display area of the display unit is divided and when an indicator is selected to a position of indicating information representing number of divisions, the display area is divided by this number of divisions, and plural items of information are displayed in the divided display areas (col. 5, lines 39-42). Therefore, it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Mill's teaching of pieces of information representing the number of divisions by which the display area of the display unit is divided and when an indicator is selected to a position of indicating information representing

number of divisions, the display area is divided by this number of divisions, and plural items of information are displayed in the divided display areas to Wynn's teaching of pieces of information representing plural pieces of identifying information and when the indicator is selected to the position of indicating the information representing the plural pieces of identifying information, plural items of information are displayed so that users view and workspace is modifiable by the user, giving greater customization for the user.

Claims 31 and 49 individually are similar in scope to claim 13 and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

9. Claims 17-18, 35-36 and 53-54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wynn et al. ("Wynn", US 6,667,751 B1).

As per claims 17 and 18, Wynn teaches all the features of claim 15 and also an information display system wherein the operation unit is a mouse, and the indication is a click on the object (figs. 8 and 10-11; col. 8, line 66 through col. 9, line 43). Wynn does not explicitly disclose the operation unit being a touch panel, and the indicating operation is one-touch operation on the object or a remote controller having a push button and the indicating operation is a pushing operation on the push button. Official Notice is taken that the use of a touch panel with one-touch operation(s) on the object for indicating and a remote controller having push buttons for indicating and the indicating operation is a pushing operation on the push button are well known in the art and would be considered art equivalents of mice as an operation unit. Therefore, it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include the use of a touch panel or remote control as a unit of operation to Wynn's mouse/unit of operation in order to provide users with an implementation preference.

Claims 35 and 36, in combination, is similar in scope to the combination of claims 17 and 18 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 53 and 54, in combination, is similar in scope to the combination of claims 17 and 18 and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

### ***Conclusion***

10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Himmel et al. (US 6,211,874 B1) teach method for parallel selection of URL's.

Kraus et al. (US 6,266,684 B1) teach creating and saving multi-frame Web pages.

Bourgeois et al. (US 6,211,874 B1) teach space allocation and positioning method for screen display regions in a variable windowing system.

### ***Inquires***

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner Lê whose telephone number is **(703) 305-7601**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 5:30 am to 2:00 pm (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid, can be reached on (703) 308-0640.

The fax numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(703) 746-7239 [Official Communication]

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

LVN

Patent Examiner

March 19, 2004

*Kristine Kincaid*  
KRISTINE KINCAID  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100